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Subject: FW: Hurricane Harvey Management Report for 20 September  
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Harvey Management Report 9-20-Final.pdf

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Subject: Hurricane Harvey Management Report for 20 September



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### HURRICANE HARVEY MANAGEMENT REPORT

Information contained in this report reflects HQ and regional reporting from the most recently completed operational period as well as other reports provided by HQ, regional and interagency sources. The FEMA Senior Leadership Briefing is attached.

#### National Incident Management Objectives

- Objective 1: Ensure that health and safety of the EPA response is considered at all times.
- Objective 2: Establish an incident management structure and processes employing the Incident Command System to enable effective overall management of the event with deployment of resources (staff and equipment) in a rapid, aggressive and well-coordinated manner.
- Objective 3: Ensure prompt Review and Processing of Fuel Waiver requests.
- Objective 4: Prepare for and provide Rapid Assessment of Industrial facilities as requested by the State or under EPA's statutory program responsibilities for CERCLA Superfund, RMP and FRP facilities. Working with our state partners, contact industrial sources within the impacted area to determine their operational status and determine what support can be provided with the monitoring of the start-up of industrial sources.
- Objective 5: Prepare for and provide Rapid Assessment & Technical Assistance Drinking Water & Wastewater facilities as requested by the State or local government. EPA will support our state partners in contacting drinking water and waste water systems.
- Objective 6: Prepare a Sustained Response Plan that outlines the resource and equipment needs for a long duration response.
- Objective 7: Activate the Agency's Crisis Communication Plan to insure effective and efficient coordination of all incident communications.
- Objective 8: Encourage a collaborative federalism approach, where national, state and local governments interact cooperatively and collectively to solve common problems.
- Objective 9: Begin Agency internal and external coordination, under the National Disaster Recovery Framework, regarding Recovery Support Functions in which EPA is likely to be involved.

#### Executive Summary

- On September 19<sup>th</sup>, FEMA issued an increase of \$2.1 million in EPA's ESF-10 Mission Assignment.
- R6 responded to a large tank fire at the Valero Port Arthur Refinery. The fire occurred at 12:10 CT and was extinguished in one hour. R6 is conducting air monitoring with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).
- The state cost-share for response activities increases to 10 percent match (from zero) including EPA-led operations under Emergency Support Function #10 (ESF-10). This cost share arrangement begins at midnight on September 21<sup>st</sup>. EPA is coordinating with the state of Texas to identify ESF-10 operations that will continue after September 21<sup>st</sup>.
- EPA completed sample collection at 34 Texas Superfund sites. EPA has released 27 post-hurricane Superfund site summaries based on preliminary data on the [www.epa.gov/hurricane-harvey](http://www.epa.gov/hurricane-harvey) website.
- All three branches of Unified Command continue recovering and staging orphan containers for proper disposal:
  - The Corpus Christi and Port Arthur/Beaumont branches have transitioned all open sites to the appropriate TCEQ Regional office for closeout;
  - All containers on the staging pad continue to be transferred to the Houston branch before being shipped for disposal. Estimated completion of recovery activities has increased to 25 days.
- Community Liaison teams plan to demobilize October 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- EPA's Portable High-Throughput Integrated Laboratory Identification System (PHILIS) units were demobilized from Houston area on September 17<sup>th</sup>.
- The two Trace Atmosphere Gas Analyzer (TAGA) vehicles are scheduled to finish monitoring September 20<sup>th</sup> and demobilize by September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

#### Region 6 Significant Activities

The Region 6 Region Emergency Operations Center (REOC) is currently activated and working under a limited ESF-10 FEMA Mission Assignment (MA). EPA has received MAs for over \$10.3 million for recovery operations to include assisting Texas with drinking water, wastewater, and hazmat recovery operations. FEMA announced plans to fund mission assignments in five-day increments.

Mission Assignment Number	Funding Amount	Description of Assignment
4332DR-TX-EPA-03	\$12,192,000	Region 6 field operations including assessing drinking & waste water infrastructure, implementation of Response Manager tracking system, response to hazardous substance releases and oil discharges.
4332DR-TX-EPA-01	\$275,000	Deployment of EPA to various locations, including but not limited to TX SEOC and the FEMA RRCC to support response operations.
Total	\$12,467,000	

#### Number of Region 6 Personnel Involved

Personnel	EPA R6 Dallas	FEMA Denton	Texas JFO Austin	TX SEOC Austin	TCEQ Austin	Houston	Corpus Christi	Beaumont/Port Arthur	Total
Region 6	55	0	3	1	0	51	22	14	146
Contractors	5	0	0	1	0	25	8	24	63
Total	60	0	3	2	0	76	30	38	209

#### Debris Recovery Operations

A Federal Debris Management Taskforce was established at the JFO in Austin with EPA serving as a member. Joint EPA and TCEQ field observation teams continue to observe debris staging and landfill operations within the hurricane impacted counties in Texas to ensure best practices and program requirements are being met. EPA and TCEQ observers visited 38 debris sites on September 19<sup>th</sup> with site visits continuing another 30 days.

#### Container Recovery Operations

This chart includes daily and cumulative data on container recovery:

Waste Received at All Staging Pads to Date – Containers and Cylinders					
	Drums [55 gals]	Small Containers [<55 gals]	Large Containers [>55 gals]	Cylinders	Total
9/18/2017	7	5	4	8	24
Total	423	397	37	120	977

#### Corpus Christi Branch

The Oil/Vessel Discharge Recovery placed placards on five vessels in Cove Harbor and one vessel was relinquished by the owner to Texas General Land Office (TGLO).

#### Houston Branch

The ER/Orphan Container Recovery Team recovered a 2,500-gallon tote of unknown liquid. Oil Discharge Assessment Teams sampled four totes, recovered two drums, and a polypropylene container. Hazard Evaluation Teams assessed a debris line target and identified approximately 14 containers requiring recovery.

#### Beaumont/Port Arthur Branch

ER/Orphan Container Recovery Teams safely recovered and retrieved a chemical tote from the Beaumont Yacht Club. Hazard Evaluation (HE) teams investigated two targets in south Port Arthur and both targets were cleared. HE teams also verified that all targets near Benchmark Oil & Gas Co. in Orange were being addressed by the responsible party.

#### Emergency and Field Response Operations

Region 6 continues to collect and stage recovered orphan containers. No changes reported on timeline for completion in Corpus Christi, Houston, and Beaumont.

Daily & Cumulative Summary of Hazard Evaluations/Recovery				
Location	Opened		Closed	
	9/19/2017	Number of Targets	9/19/2017	Cumulative
Corpus Christi	0	5	0	101
Houston	0	3	19	399
Port Arthur/Beaumont	0	0	7	135
NRC Reports	0	0	0	5
<b>Total</b>	0	8	26	640

Note: Open means the target is yet to be recovered. Closed means the target was recovered/left in place or access was denied to collect the item.

Daily & Cumulative Summary of Spills/Discharges (non-vessels)				
Location	Opened		Closed	
	9/19/17	Number of Facilities/Spills	9/19/17	Cumulative
Corpus Christi	0	0	0	33
Houston	0	0	0	77
Port Arthur/Beaumont	0	3	1	23
NRC Reports	0	8	3	118
<b>Total</b>	0	11	4	251

Note: Open means the target is yet to be recovered/cleaned up. Closed means the target was recovered/cleaned up by a Responsible Party or not found upon return to location.

Number of Field Team Personnel on September 18 <sup>th</sup>				
Team Type	Corpus Christi	Houston	Port Arthur/Beaumont	Total
Hazard Evaluation	0	1	2	3
Hazard Evaluation Debris	2	8	0	10
Oil Discharge Assessment	0	2	0	2
ER/Orphan Container Recovery	0	6	1	7
Oil/Vessel Recovery	6	0	0	6
Staging Areas	0	1	1	2
Air Operations	0	1	0	1
Air Monitoring	1	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>	9	19	4	32

#### Superfund NPL Sites

- EPA provided oversight to potentially responsible parties (PRPs) and independently collected samples at 34 Texas Superfund sites and 9 Louisiana sites to confirm no releases due to storm impacts. The sampling is part of a longer term assessment that will be used to transition sites back to normal cleanup operations. EPA received preliminary data for 40 sites and expects to receive results for the remaining 3 sites, located in Louisiana, on September 20<sup>th</sup>. EPA has publicly reported on 27 sites. Final data packages are anticipated within two weeks.
- All 43 Superfund sites in the affected area have been assessed. Of these, 42 sites have been cleared. The San Jacinto Waste Pits site remains uncleared and cap repair continues.

#### Air Monitoring

On September 19<sup>th</sup>, TAGA Team 1 conducted monitoring of neighborhoods and areas around the Flint Hills Resources East and West Refineries, Valero East and West Refineries, Citgo East and West Refineries, Equistar Refinery, and the Equistar Chemical Dock facility; all in Corpus Christi Branch. No monitored readings exceeded the TCEQ Air Monitoring Comparison Values short-term screening levels.

On September 19<sup>th</sup>, TAGA Team 2 conducted air monitoring of neighborhoods and areas around ExxonMobil Beaumont Refinery, ExxonMobil Beaumont Polyethylene facility, ExxonMobil Beaumont Chemical Plant, Neches Terminal, and Neches West facilities. No monitored readings at any facilities exceeded the TCEQ Air Monitoring Comparison Values short-term screening levels.

#### Drinking Water/Wastewater Assessments

EPA's collaborative work with the state has ensured the return of 1,945 community water systems to fully operational status. These systems cover 99% of the population in the greater Houston area (7.23 out of 7.26 million served).

#### EPA Headquarters Significant Activities:

The HQ EOC is activated to Level 1 in support of the Region 6 response for Hurricane Harvey. The HQ EOC is coordinating with Region 6 and other Federal agencies. Personnel have also deployed to the FEMA NRCC to staff the ESF-10 desk. EPA Senior Management that comprise the Policy Coordinating Committee (PCC) developed and issued senior management objectives that form the basis of field strategy and tactics in response to Harvey.

#### Headquarters Mission Assignments

Mission Assignment Number	Funding Amount	Description of Assignment
4332DR-TX-EPA-01	\$10,000	FEMA HQ ESF-10 Desk Support
4332DR-TX-EPA-02	\$40,000	FEMA HQ ESF-10 Desk Support
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>	

#### Number of HQ Personnel Involved in the EOC

Personnel	AO	OAR	OARM	OCFO	OCSP	OECA	OEI	OGC	OLEM	ORD	OW	PIO	ATSDR	Totals
Employees	1	0	0	0	1	2	1	1	14	1	1	1	1	24
Contractors	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	4	0	0	0	0	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>31</b>

#### Fuel Waivers

EPA issued No Action Assurance (NAA) Extensions to TCEQ on September 15<sup>th</sup>, on Loading of Tank Fuel Trucks at Petroleum Distribution Terminals, Landing Roofs on Gasoline Storage Vessels, and the Use of Vapor Recovery Systems. The extensions expire on September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:59 PM CDT. The NAA letters are available to the public on [www.epa.gov/hurricane-harvey](http://www.epa.gov/hurricane-harvey) and a press release was issued highlighting these three NAA letters.

Affected State	Waiver Request	Date Received	Status Talking Point	Waiver Response
Reid Vapor Pressure Requirements Waivers				
TX	Letter from TCEQ requesting a waiver of the RVP, RFG and TxLED standards in the Governor's Disaster Proclamation.	8/25/17	Extended to October 1st	<a href="https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-acts-continue-waiver-fuel-requirements-texas">https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-acts-continue-waiver-fuel-requirements-texas</a>
LA	Letter from LA governor requesting a waiver of the low RVP requirements.	8/28/17	Granted on 8/28/17	<a href="https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2017-08/documents/louisianafuelwaiver082817.pdf">https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2017-08/documents/louisianafuelwaiver082817.pdf</a>
AR	The state is drafting a waiver request to temporarily waive the requirement for low 9.0lb RVP fuel.	8/31/17	N/A	N/A

OK	A statewide low RVP fuel waiver request was submitted and then the request was amended.	8/28/17	8/30/17	<a href="https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/second-multi-state-fuels-waivers">https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/second-multi-state-fuels-waivers</a>
<b>Dyed NRLM Diesel Fuel Waiver</b>				
TX	Letter from TX comptroller requesting a waiver of using dyed NRLM diesel fuel in motor vehicles.	8/29/17	Granted on 8/29/17; IRS expanded to cover all of TX on 9/3/17	<a href="https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/texas-diesel-waiver">https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/texas-diesel-waiver</a>
<b>Low Volatility Conventional Gasoline and Reformulated Gasoline (RFG)</b>				
Multi State*	*CT, ME, MA, NH, RH, VT, DE, DC, MD, NJ, NY, and PA, FL, GA, NC, SC, VA, and WV; all mid-western states located in *PADD 2 - IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD, OH, OK, TN, and WI; and all Gulf coast states located in PADD 3 - AL, AR, LA, MS, NM, and TX  Issuance of waivers based on requests for the allowance of regulated parties within the listed states to produce, sell, or distribute conventional winter gasoline (including BOBs) with an RVP of 11.5 psi before the addition of any ethanol in any RFG covered area. The waiver for El Paso goes until September 16 <sup>th</sup> due to their State Implementation Plan requirements.	8/30/17	Expired; no longer needed	<a href="https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/second-multi-state-fuels-waivers">https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/second-multi-state-fuels-waivers</a>

\*PADD: Petroleum Administration for Defense Districts

#### Communications

- The Crisis Communication Plan remains activated. EOC Public Information Officer (PIO) continues to work on developing fact sheets on issues regarding the recovery including how to handle household hazardous waste and other debris. Region 6 PIO and Data Management team created a *Region 6 Hurricane Harvey - Public Story Map*. The map is located at this link: <https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=fadbae6b2832436fb65ca497bd75b9a6>
- EPA issued a news release announcing that Administrator Pruitt approved a request from the State of Texas to continue to waive requirements for fuels in Texas through October 1<sup>st</sup>. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-acts-continue-waiver-fuel-requirements-texas>

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